

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119544
ORIGIN EUR-12

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R 241847Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO SECDEF

JUSMG MAAG MADRID SP

UNCLAS STATE 119544

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, SP

SUBJECT: MUNICIPAL CIRCULATION TAXES IN SPAIN

REF: JUSMG MADRID MSG 101515 MAY 77

.. STATE AND DOD CONCUR IN TEXT OF RESPONSE CONTAINED
PARA 8, REFTEL, WHICH YOU MAY SUBMIT IN POLITICAL MILITARY
ADMIN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBJECT TO FOLLOWING CHANGES:

A. DELETE LAST SENTENCE OF MEMO. WITH SPANISH NOW
CONCEDING THAT AUTOMOBILES ARE INCLUDED WITHIN TERM QUOTE
MOVEABLE PROPERTY END QUOTE, ARGUMENTS FOR US INTERPRETA-
TION OF ARTICLE XLIII, PARA 3, ARE STRONGER THAN EVER,
AND WE SEE NO NEED TO HINT THAT WE WOULD BE WILLING TO
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COMPENSATE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.

B. WE THINK MEMO WOULD BE STRENGTHENED BY ADDITION OF
FOLLOWING SENTENCE AT END OF PARA B: QUOTE IN OTHER
WORDS, APPLICABILITY OF THE TAX IS DETERMINED BY THE MERE
OWNERSHIP OR POSSESSION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE. END QUOTE.

C. IN ORDER TO AVOID UHDULY NARROWING CONCLUSION OF
ARGUMENTS SET FORTH IN MEMO, PARAGRAPH C SHOULD BE ENDED
AFTER FIRST REFERENCE TO QUOTE AUTOMOBILE END QUOTE

(I.E., DELETE QUOTE AND THAT THE RATIONALE ETC END QUOTE
FROM PARA C).

2. RE NOTE 823, SPANISH HAVE USED THIS AUTHORITY TO ASSIGN
THEIR MILITARY PERSONNEL IN VICINITY OF WASHINGTON, AND
ELSEWHERE, TO EMBASSY SO THAT THEY MAY BE ACCORDED DIP-
LOMATIC PRIVILEGES. FOR EXAMPLE, SPANISH PERSONNEL ASSIGNED
TO HANSCOM AFB, MA IN CONNECTION WITH COMBAT GRANDE PROGRAM
ARE ACCORDED SUCH STATUS. WE FEEL FULLY JUSTIFIED,
THEREFORE, IN CITING NOTE 823 IN CONTEXT CURRENT DISCUSSIONS.

3. REGARDING PARA 10.D OF REFTTEL, AS A GENERAL PRINCIPLE
WE DO NOT CONTEMPLATE SEEKING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MORE THAN
ONE IMPORTED US CAR AND ONE SPANISH CAR PER FAMILY. ISSUE
SHOULD NOT BE RAISED, HOWEVER, EXCEPT IN CONTEXT OF DEALING
WITH SPECIFIC PROBLEMS WHICH ARISE. VANCE

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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